78. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgG heavy chain constant region sequence and IgE heavy chain constant region sequence are directly fused.

79. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgG heavy chain constant region sequence and IgE heavy chain constant region sequence are connected via a polypeptide linker of 5 to 25 amino acid residues.

80. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 79 wherein said polypeptide linker consists of 10 to 25 amino acid residues.

81. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 80 wherein said polypeptide linker consists of 15 to 25 amino acid residues.

82. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgG and IgE heavy chain constant region sequences are of human origin, and said IgG inhibitory receptor and IgE receptor are human.

83. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgG inhibitory receptor is a low affinity FcγRIIb IgG inhibitory receptor.

84. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgE receptor is selected from a high-affinity FcεRI receptor and a low-affinity FcεRII receptor (CD23).

85. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgG heavy chain constant region is selected from the heavy chain constant regions of IgG_1, IgG_2, IgG_3 and IgG_4.

86. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 85 wherein said IgG heavy chain constant region is an IgG_1 heavy chain constant region.

87. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 86 wherein said IgG_1 heavy chain constant region sequence consists of the hinge-CH2-CH3 portion of an IgG_1 heavy chain constant region.

88. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 87 wherein said hinge-CH2-CH3 portion of an IgG_1 heavy chain constant region is the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3.

89. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 77 wherein said IgE heavy chain constant region consists of the CH2-CH3-CH4 portion of a native human IgE heavy chain constant region.

90. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 89 wherein said CH2-CH3-CH4 portion of a native human IgE heavy chain constant region is essentially the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:6.

91. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 77 covalently linked to a second identical fusion molecule to form a homodimer.

92. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 91 wherein said linkage is through one or more disulfide bonds.

93. (New) The fusion molecule of SEQ ID NO: 7.

94. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 93 covalently linked to a second identical fusion molecule to form a homodimer.

95. (New) The fusion molecule of claim 94 wherein said linkage is through one or more disulfide bonds.

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Final Office Action dated July 2, 2002 (Paper No. 12), the Examiner has entered and considered the Amendment and Response filed on January 8, 2002. It appears that the Examiner has withdrawn the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for alleged